

§ 3141.1**§ 3141.1 General.**

(a) All oil and gas within a Special Tar Sand Area shall be leased only by competitive bonus bidding and only combined hydrocarbon leases shall be issued for oil and gas within such areas.

(b) The acreage of combined hydrocarbon leases held within a Special Tar Sand Area shall not be charged against acreage limitations for the holding of oil and gas leases.

(c)(1) The authorized officer may noncompetitively lease additional lands for ancillary facilities in a Special Tar Sand Area that are shown by an applicant to be needed to support any operations necessary for the recovery of tar sand. Such uses include, but are not limited to, mill siting or waste disposal. An application for a lease or permit to use additional lands shall be filed under the provisions of part 2920 of this title with the proper BLM office having jurisdiction of the lands. The application for additional lands may be filed at the time a plan of operations is filed.

(2) A lease for the use of additional lands shall not be issued under this part when the use can be authorized under part 2800 of this title. Such uses include, but are not limited to, reservoirs, pipelines, electrical generation systems, transmission lines, roads and railroads.

(3) Within units of the National Park System, permits or leases for additional lands for any purpose shall be issued only by the National Park Service. Applications for such permits or leases shall be filed with the Regional Director of the National Park Service.

§ 3141.2 Prelease exploration within Special Tar Sand Areas.**§ 3141.2–1 Geophysical exploration.**

Geophysical exploration in Special Tar Sand Areas shall be governed by part 3150 of this title. Information obtained under a permit shall be made available to the Bureau of Land Management upon request.

[48 FR 7422, Feb. 18, 1983, as amended at 55 FR 12351, Apr. 3, 1990]

§ 3141.2–2 Exploration licenses.

(a) Any person(s) qualified to hold a lease under the provisions of subpart 3102 of this title and this subpart may obtain an exploration license to conduct core drilling and other exploration activities to collect geologic, environmental and other data concerning tar sand resources only on lands, the surface of which are under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, within or adjacent to a Special Tar Sand Area. The application for such a license shall be submitted to the proper BLM office having jurisdiction of the lands. No drilling for oil or gas will be allowed under an exploration license issued under this subpart. No specific form is required for an application for an exploration license.

(b) The application for an exploration license shall be subject to the following requirements:

(1) Each application shall contain the name and address of the applicant(s);

(2) Each application shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable filing fee of \$250.00;

(3) Each application shall contain a description of the lands covered by the application according to section, township and range in accordance with the official survey;

(4) Each application shall include 3 copies of an exploration plan which complies with the requirements of 43 CFR 4392.1 (a); and

(5) An application shall cover no more than 5,120 acres, which shall be as nearly compact as possible.

The authorized officer may grant an exploration license covering more than 5,120 acres only if the application contains a justification for an exception to the normal limitation.

(c) The authorized officer may, if he/she determines it necessary to avoid impacts resulting from duplication of exploration activities, require applicants for exploration licenses to provide an opportunity for other parties to participate in exploration under the license on a pro rata cost sharing basis. If joint participation is determined necessary, it shall be conducted according to the following:

(1) Immediately upon the notification of a determination that parties